

"Any industrial development of our forest resources largely depends on these surveys," the minister concluded.

"Down-to-Earth" Policy Proposed

By M. J. Coldwell, M.P.,
IN A CBC BROADCAST, JANUARY 22nd

THIS WEEK Parliament reconvenes. As members gather, they will come with ample proof of the Government's failure to give this country constructive leadership toward that finer and better Canada of which we heard so much from 1940 to 1945.

We lack proper housing, the rising cost of living is wiping out gains made by labor and by the farm community during the war. This does not mean that Canada is in a worse condition than other countries. On the contrary, we emerged from war as one of the most fortunate of nations. Our homes were not destroyed; our civilians had not been killed; average standards of living had actually improved and wartime sacrifices were mainly made by our young men and women who served in the Armed Forces.

We have everything to do all that was expected—resources, machinery, human labor. We can, if we will, meet all the needs of our own people, and assist generously in the relief of world-wide distress. And yet, even our own pressing needs are not being met—wartime promises are forgotten.

Now why? Basically, the answer is simple. Our Government is determined to lead the Canadian people back to a so-called free economy. The Liberal Party is committed to that goal. Rumor has it that they aim to reach it by the end of 1947.

Staunchly backing the Liberals in this policy are the Tories, assisted by their allies—the Social Credit Party.

The Tories and Social Crediters complain that the Liberals are not moving backward fast enough. But, fundamentally, all three—Liberals, Tories, and Social Crediters are in agreement.

Yet, their policy is the precise cause of our difficulties. For it is clear that we need a national plan for peace, and we had one for war.

"Down-to-Earth" Policy
Planned production for human needs is no wild suggestion. It is a "down-to-earth" practical policy now being undertaken by most democratic governments.

The spokesmen for so-called free enterprise paint a gloomy picture of regimented humanity, and shout that what we have got to do is to get rid of controls, and get back to a so-called free economy.

But this so-called free economy simply does not exist here or anywhere else.

We have not the choice between controls—or no controls. That is a false assumption. The real question is what kind of controls?—by whom and for what purpose?

And the choice is clear: on the one hand—a choice of irresponsible controls by private corporations, over which you or I, or the House of Commons, have little or no influence, exercised in a hundred and one ways by private interests for private profit.

That is where Liberals and Tories and Social Crediters will land us by returning our country to something they miscall "free enterprise."

Democratic Control
But, on the other hand, we have the choice of democratic control, under broad economic policies laid down by Parliament, by the freely-elected representatives of the Canadian people, and dedicated to the welfare of all.

That is what the C.C.F. wants. That is what the C.C.F. will fight for throughout this coming session, and indeed, until, as your elected government, we have the opportunity of helping to build a free and democratic, co-operative commonwealth.

The Liberals, backed by the Tories and Social Credit, do not

believe in economic democracy. They are determined to hand back the direction of the economic life of this nation to the financial institutions, Aluminum Limited, the Steel Company of Canada, Consolidated Mining and Smelting, International Nickel, Imperial Oil, and so on.

Offsetting our political democracy, they are imposing an economic dictatorship which rests in the hands of a few hundred so-called "Big Shots" who direct Big Business. The C.C.F. believes that, under such conditions, we can never have complete democracy.

Nobody is interested in public controls for controls sake—least of all, the C.C.F. But the C.C.F. is interested in Government activity, so that Parliament can plan the economic life of this nation to meet the needs of the Canadian people.

Defy Will of Parliament

Let me illustrate my point: Last September the Government flouted a decision of Parliament with respect to the milk subsidy. Milk is our most important single food.

According to the Department of National Health, the Canadian people were not getting sufficient milk to maintain an adequate standard of health, even before removal of milk subsidies.

The Nutrition Division of the

M. J. Coldwell in a broadcast last Wednesday declared that C.C.F. members of parliament during the present session will press for—

- A revival of the milk subsidy.
- The restoration of effective price control.
- A public housing program.
- A progressive and planned policy for Agriculture.
- A national labor code.
- A comprehensive plan for industry.

Department of Health estimated that in 1944, if Canadians had received all the milk they needed, consumption would have been increased by over a billion pounds, or by 25%.

Now, in spite of the Government's report showing clearly the need for the consumption of 25% more milk, and in defiance of the will of Parliament, the Government dropped the milk subsidy.

The C.C.F. motion passed by Parliament last August, stated—as strongly as the rules of the House would permit—that the milk subsidy should not be dropped.

But the Government defied the will of Parliament. What was the result? Within four months, the price of milk jumped in some provinces by over fifty per cent. There was an immediate decrease in the consumption of milk. Indeed, milk consumption figures for October, 1946, showed a ten million pound drop compared with the same month in 1945, although there was a slight rise again in November.

And yet, within two weeks of dropping the milk subsidy, the Liberal Government granted an addition to the already substantial subsidy now being paid to the Dominion Steel and Coal Company. This is nothing new. Corporations like the C.P.R. have been granted subsidies of one kind and another every year, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars.

Indeed, much of Canadian industry has been built up behind a tariff wall which represents a huge indirect subsidy out of the pockets of all the Canadian people. These are the corporations that shout about private enterprise—about a free economy where governments do not intervene. This means that Big Business wants no Government planning because it seeks a clear field to plan for profits instead of human needs.

Housing Failure

But milk was only one illustration. Housing is an equally good example of planlessness and failure. According to Government estimates, the increased need for housing in 1946, because of marriages, re-establishment of veterans, and so on, has been eighty thousand units.

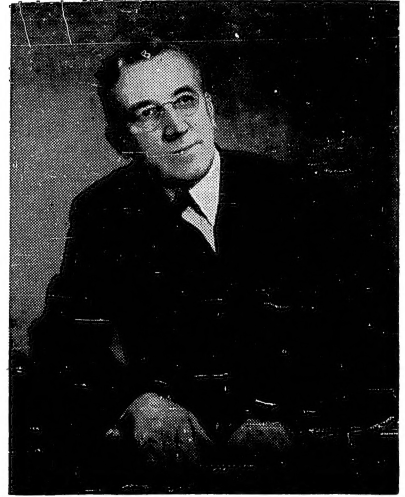
But, so far, we have built only fifty thousand housing units. And when we consider our long-term needs, we find that the housing situation is much worse now than it was a year ago.

Why is the situation worse?
Out of every one hundred dollars spent on construction in the first ten months of 1946, only \$32.38, or less than one-third, was spent on housing.

Building of hotels, service stations, clubs, bowling alleys, theatres—all this has gone on while Canadian families go without shelter.

Why? All that the Minister in charge, offers as an excuse, is that—"It is beyond the administrative ability of any group of government officials to decide what is essential and what is non-essential housing."

What that really means is—that the Government cannot control, or is not interested in controlling, private interests who can make far more profit by building a brewery or a theatre than they can by building houses.



come. The costs of production and of living on the farm have risen steadily, so that the farmer's net return remains relatively small.

Low Farm Income
In most parts of Canada the farmer works long hours and overworks the entire family. Yet his standard of living remains unforgivably low.

Agriculture is, on every hand, the victim of planlessness. In the dairy industry the withdrawal of various subsidies has made certain fields of production less profitable than others, so that we get unnecessary shortages. The wheat farmers get twenty cents per bushel less for wheat milled for domestic consumption than on the export market.

Thus the farmers are forced to subsidize our bread and wheat products, which is unfair and creates resentment and conflict. If subsidies are necessary, they should be provided for in the national budget, and not come from one group of producers.

And it is important to remember that the Canadian farmer is not grasping. Thus, for example, he accepted the wheat agreement because it offered some stability of markets which farmers have sought for years. The price is below parity but wheat producers agreed to it in the hope of long-term advantages. Its acceptance was based, however, in the belief that the Government would hold the general price level. But the Government is not holding the price line.

The industrial workers have suffered in a similar way. During the past year, average weekly earnings in all industries rose from \$32.16 to \$33.23—a rise of less than four per cent. Over the same period the profits, after taxes, of twenty-eight of Canada's largest corporations, rose from thirty-three million dollars to fifty-two million—a rise of 56%; average wages up—four per cent; large corporation profits up 56%.

At the same time, the cost of living has risen over twice as much as when wartime controls

were effective. Obviously, the eight-point jump in the official cost of living index is not due to higher wages.

Empty Slogans
In short, on every hand, the interests of the Canadian people are being sacrificed to empty slogans—too outworn economic beliefs. Under cover of these slogans, control of the Canadian economy is getting back into the hands of a closely-knit group of monopolistic interests. And the Government, backed by the Tories and Social Crediters, not only condone it, but actively encourages it.

In the coming session of Parliament, we must try to reverse this trend. We call for a revival of the subsidy on milk, as Parliament demanded. We call for legislation that will restore effective price control, so that the rise in the cost of living for farmers, workers and people on fixed income may be stopped.

We need, and the C.C.F. will demand, a public housing program which will bring decent homes within the reach of all who need them. We require a progressive and planned policy for agriculture, to bring stability to this basic industry, and to provide the farmer with an income in line with the cost of things he has to buy. That is what we mean by parity prices—and parity is impossible without controls.

We need, too, a national labor code and a comprehensive plan for industry.

It is my hope that this session of Parliament will not waste time on non-essential matters. Our country has great potentialities.

As I have learned at United Nations' meetings, Canada enjoys world-wide respect. Let us then, try to build our democracy on the economic as well as on the political front. This should be the task of Parliament in 1947.

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ANOTHER WARNING

Chester Bowles, as you may remember, was one of the key men in President Roosevelt's war administration. He was the chief of the office of Price Administration. Often he was described as the most powerful man in the cabinet, because he wielded tremendous authority over the whole American economy. He governed prices. Naturally all the chiselers and would-be chiselers hated his guts. War exigencies made such controls imperative and they had to put up with them. When hostilities ended, however, all the "free enterprisers" concentrated their attack on the O.P.A. and last summer its authority was reduced to a minimum, bringing in its wake a spiraling of prices and industrial strife. America was "free" for unrestrained profiteering. Chester Bowles resigned. He is now American representative on one of the important economic committees of U.N.O.

But, occasionally Mr. Bowles makes his voice heard over the "yah-hoo" cries of the free-boaters. When he speaks it is with the voice of unusual authority because of his intimate knowledge of the American economic system acquired during his term of office. It is not the voice of a socialist or revolutionary. Mr. Bowles, like his former chief, the late president, F.D.R., is a champion of "free enterprise," of the American way of life. That is why his comments command wide-spread attention.

About a month ago Mr. Bowles released an article for the New York "Nation" under the title, "How to Stop a Depression." It is a warning signal to all those who in their selfishness and greed would abolish any governing devices from the intricate industrial mechanism of American economy. A warning by one of the architects and engineers of this powerful mechanism involving the lives of 140 million Americans and many millions all over the globe. I propose to quote a few extracts from this article, because they bear out and justify the claims and the struggle of organized labor for a bigger share of the national income:

Says Mr. Bowles: "As prices have risen, the working people of America—the sixty million men and women who man our assembly lines, drive our trucks and combine, work store cash registers and run office comptometers—have watched their war-time prosperity fade, their real income dwindle. And, they face additional troubles in the coming months. Corporation profits after taxes and net farm income after payment of all expenses will be far greater in 1946 than they were during the peak production of war years. Labor take-home pay will be less; it will be roughly the same as in the spring of 1943.

And, yet conservative editorial writers and radio commentators, taking their cue from the propaganda of certain business groups have been proclaiming to high heaven that it's time labor was taught a lesson. Since the crushing Republican victory of November the more reactionary industrialists have been making abominably clear that from now on they will have the whiphand. Out of such a situation can grow a depression which will shake our economic system to its foundations. Much of our ability to maintain full employment will depend on government action. But, to an even greater extent the success of our efforts to keep our economy rolling at top

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 250 words in length.

MORE TAXES, NO BENEFITS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: We all know that a certain amount of taxation is necessary. Our provincial government has explored every field of taxation possible. Recently an old fur dealer, H. King, was fined \$106 because he bought a number of mink pelts from a mink rancher who as it turned out had no fur license to raise mink although at the time of the sale he had advertised that his license was at home and would be brought later. A child who brings in a squirrel must have a trapping license, and now we have the most recent tax, the royalty on fish. Fishermen would not object to this so much if that money was earmarked for the improvement of the fishing industry. But as it is, the fishermen have no assurance that this money will be spent for their benefit.

People do not mind increased taxation if they derive some definite benefits from this increase.

Yours,

JOHN HANNOCHKO,
Lac La Biche.

THE RUGGED INDIVIDUALIST

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: I am a good Conservative, I may as well admit. And in the lap of luxury, it's been my lot to sit. I aim to keep just what I have and you may well surmise I made it all in what is called Private Enterprise.

Of course I had to have a start, if you know what I mean. The Workers part right from the start is encouragement.

He donates me a place to build and from all taxes free. He really sets me up in style, then comes to work for me.

So my profits rise and rise until so very high.

Whilst he, poor sap, has not the price for things he needs to buy. Then when he chooses to close my door, out on his ear he goes. It doesn't mean a thing to me, it's no skin off my nose.

It's my successful enterprise, he doesn't own a thing. He's just a common wage-slave, on me he has no string. I did the whole thing neatly, I ground my little axe. He's just the sap. Who turned the stone, the guy who paid the tax.

G. J. HARVIE,

Lethbridge.

speed will depend on the wages and salaries which are arrived at by collective bargaining.

In every generation since the Civil war the productive capacity of our industrial plants has doubled. Unless we produce proportionately the amount of purchasing power in the hands of the people, all the people, workers, farmers and business people, we shall not be able to buy the volume of goods which we are capable of producing. Production will then slow down, workers will begin to be unemployed, purchasing power will be further reduced and we shall find ourselves headed for trouble. Our forty million families will have the funds with which to buy our increasing output of goods only if wages, salaries and farm income move steadily upward.

If Chester Bowles were a "free leader," he would be, no doubt, branded as "communist." Only he happens to be an industrialist himself, champion of "free enterprise" and an authority of highest rank. His warning cannot be laughed off. It becomes a challenge. It's the last call to stave off economic disaster. We hope

JUST A MINUTE!

By A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A.

The building of FEAR of some other nation is the first necessity in making a people war-minded toward that nation.

In the previous issue we concluded that no great power today had any actual cause to fear Russia. Has Russia any cause to fear her former allies?

The answer basically is NO, and for the same reasons:

1. The other great powers are "Have" nations and it is cheaper to exploit the resources they have under their control than to wage a war. England and France in particular will be too busy for decades on rehabilitation.

2. The common people of no nation want to wage an aggressive war (and will not, unless they can be persuaded that it is actually a defensive war.)

But this NO must be qualified. Russia for the following reasons does fear us (and there is a measure of justification):

1. The very fact that we are democracies means that the present reasonably friendly governments of her former allies can at any time be replaced by hostile governments.

2. The present widespread efforts in the democracies to build up a fear of Russia is evidence to Russia that there do exist powerful groups who want to replace the present governments with others that are hostile to Russia.

3. Russia fears that capitalists within the democracies are willing to go to almost any lengths to destroy the state control in Russia so they can get their hands on Russia's vast undeveloped natural resources.

4. Russia remembers that the Hitler military machine was in part made possible by loans from the capitalist democracies and believes that there was the definite hope in some quarters that as a result Hitler would either weaken or completely destroy Communist Russia.

5. Russia remembers that in two wars Germany used Finland and her other border states as a springboard for attack on Russia and fears that other nations might do the same.

6. Russia feels that while the U.S.A. is protected by barriers of ice and ocean, barriers in a practical sense almost insuperable, and while England is protected by a buffer of friendly states from France to Norway, that Russia has not that protection unless she makes certain that her border states are friendly. (While we cannot, and do not condone Russia's dominance in her border states, if we UNDERSTAND her reason, our own reaction to Russia's position there will be wiser and more likely to lead toward permanent peace.)

Basically, I believe, neither Russia nor her former allies have any real reason to fear each other. But unreasonable fear can be as dangerous to peace as well-founded fear. Are there any CONSTRUCTIVE measures that we in the democracies can take to help remove as a possible cause of World War III fear of any kind? I think there are and in the next issue will conclude this group of articles with a discussion of them.

THE C.C.F. Sustaining Membership Drive is now on—\$10 or more will put you in good standing for 1945.



By H. ZELLA SPENCER

NO DOUBT there are queries in the mind of each of us to which we should like to have answered.

One of mine is to know who is against the Provincial Government assuming at least 50% of the cost of primary and secondary education in the Province. I mean who, aside from the representatives we have elected to our Provincial Legislature? They are evidently opposed since they continue to refuse to assume that responsibility even after deputations of so many representative bodies have waited on them to express their opinion on the subject.

In a democratic form of government we are not lead to believe that our elected representatives are in their positions as such for the purpose of carrying out the wishes of the people? That is what we are continually reminded is the glory of democracy and we who are supposed to be enjoying it in this Province are not infrequently heard to rejoice in the position in which we find ourselves and to regret exceedingly that there are people in other parts of the world who do not enjoy our privilege.

Yet despite that being instilled into us, last year the Government was waited on by representatives of some fifteen provincial-wide organizations urging the government to assume at least 50% of the cost of primary and secondary education. There were elected representatives from the Association of Municipal Districts and the Union of Municipalities (the former rural, the latter urban); there were representatives from the School Trustees and from the School Teachers Associations; from the A.F.A., the A.F.U. and the U.F.A.; from the Women's Institute and the U.F.W.A., from the Canadian Legion and the I.O.E.; from the Board of Trade, from the Alberta Federation of Labor. And I wonder if I

have missed any. But would you not consider that representation sufficient to give voice to the wishes of the people of the Province?

But despite the appeal of that delegation, the money was not forthcoming. Now as I said, if the Government is assuring us it is carrying out the wishes of the people, why has it not done so? And who do they feel they are pleasing? They can not plead poverty, for they made much of the fact that there is a surplus of ten million dollars they had. And they cannot plead, as is so often done, that the Federal Government is standing in the way and preventing them.

This year a most vigorous campaign is being waged from the platform, in the press and over the air to try and arouse any who have not troubled themselves over the matter and to convince the members of the legislature that the people of Alberta are speaking in no uncertain voice of what they expect the Government to do for education in the Province.

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LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc. of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province. EDMONTON

Brewery, Food, Cereal & Soft Drink Workers of America No. 314—Meets 1st Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, J. Skirrow, 10545 92nd Street, 3rd Drink Branch Secretary, 2227 30th Avenue, phone 33916; Secy-Treasurer, J. Flower, 1154 St. James, 2227 30th Avenue, telephone 33916.

Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1326, Edmonton, Alberta, United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners, W. O. L. B. Pollard, 2227 30th Avenue, phone 33916; Secy-Treasurer, J. A. R. Bunker, 1154 St. James, 2227 30th Avenue, phone 33916.

Garment Workers of America No. 121—United—Meets second Wednesday in each month in Labor Hall, President, Percy Williamson, 5845 30th Ave., Recording Secretary, Alberta Wharton, 11522 87th Street.

Railway Carmen No. 444, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, 1154 St. James, 2227 30th Avenue, phone 33916.

Fire Fighters No. 209, International Association of Fire Fighters, 1154 St. James, 2227 30th Avenue, phone 33916.

PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

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VENOM FROM THE MAJOR

THERE IS scarcely an issue of *The Social Creditor*, Major Douglas' personal organ, which does not contain a dig at one of the Major's pet hates, the trade unions. He hates the trade unions and the co-operatives (both of which are in the plot of the international Jewish bankers to control the world!) with a consuming hatred.

In the issue of January 4th, 1947, the unions are given a going over in the following language:

One bandit amongst a busy, normally peace-loving community, is no problem. The general community is peace-loving; it is the bandit-organizers, e.g., the Trade Unions, who force him to break the peace. A clean-up of the conscious and purposeful banditry would help; but the essential is to cripple their organizing mechanisms, which have been tripled by our present administration. Some of the members of it may be well-meaning coxcombs; some of them are bandits; but they are all deadly enemies of the decent citizen.

Hitler and Mein Kampf won't be dead as long as we have Major C. H. Douglas and *The Social Creditor*. This might be very serious if it were not for the fact that it is hard to find anyone from England who has even heard of the Major. His greatest potency is in the parroting of his hymns of hate by the Jaques and Lows and Hookes and Ansleys in Canada.

EDUCATION IN ALARMING STATE

WHEN The Alberta Educational Council, composed of twenty-six highly respectable organizations, more representative than any other body of the province, is protesting against what it aptly calls "Mailbox Education," it is casting no reflection on the correspondence branch of the Department of Education. That branch has done good work in the past and is doing good work now. It is staffed with well-trained teachers and is well-conducted.

But the correspondence branch was never intended to do more than fill some gaps which are likely to occur in the most complete school system in a province which still has many frontier settlements. It was never meant to take the place of schools or regular school classes and it is impossible for it to perform the function of the school. Furthermore, the larger is the number of pupils the branch must handle the least effective its work can be.

More than 15,000 Alberta pupils, or 490 classes, are now getting the mailbox education. In addition another 20,000 children who are in school are being taught by teachers with sub-standard qualifications.

A few years ago Alberta educationists proudly proclaimed that this province was in the vanguard in educational progress. The same people are now deploring the fact that education in Alberta has been allowed under the present administration of the Department of Education to fall into an alarming state.

TORY MOUTHPIECE

ONE THING must be said for Mr. Solon Low: he is certainly going the "whole hog" in his advocacy of the Tory program. In Regina last week, according to newspaper dispatches and the radio news, he said the federal government had not gone far enough in relinquishing price controls, and he called on the right wingers of both the Liberal and Conservative parties to join with Social Credit in protecting private enterprise from the "socialism" of the Ottawa government and the C.C.F.

During the past couple of weeks the Ottawa government, under pressure from Canadian big business and the Tory-S. C. politicians, has permitted the profiteers to reach into the pockets of the Canadian people and take part of their income.

Solon Low, in the hope that he may become part of a Duplessis-Bracken-Low government at Ottawa has made a complete sell-out, not only of the Canadian people but of every progressive principle ever propounded by the Canadian founder of Social Credit. The *People's Weekly* was no supporter of the late William Aberhart, but if his strong hand were still at the helm we cannot believe that he'd have permitted Solon Low to get so low.

Elmore Philpott in the *Edmonton Bulletin* referring to the campaign of anti-Semitism of the Social Credit party, especially in Quebec, ends up with the sentence: "Hitler's ghost must smile."

Says the *A.T.A. Magazine*: "The fact is that Alberta's educational system, the best in Canada at one time, is falling apart..."

There was a time when every Canadian Tory would turn red, white and blue at any criticism of Great Britain. Now the Canadian Tory newspapers and Tory politicians are ready to do anything to discredit the British government. The people of Britain have let them down!

THE THIRD COLUMN

HUNGER BELL TOLLS

Glasgow Forward:

"Hunger, like peace, is indivisible. Ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee. Ask not to whom the weeping child belongs, it belongs to thee."

"Here are extracts from the eye-witness reports of reliable relief workers:

"In France a large minority is seriously, dangerously underfed, many living on the T.B. margin. They suffer from lowered resistance to disease, decalcification of the bones, stunted growth, anaemia and general weakness."

"In Poland 'potatoes are often practically the only food to be found, potato soup in the morning and evening, and possibly potato soup for the school dinner."

"In Greece 'famine does other strange things besides the familiar killing and crippling of human bodies. The British housewife... has not seen her children die because they could no longer keep alive on the grass and weeds which were all that she could give them to eat."

"In Germany," said Lord Saltoun, in the House of Lords, "I was conscious of a faint sickly smell which a doctor said might come from a derangement of the lungs caused by hunger. It is clear that the people were suffering from an advanced degree of malnutrition."

★

"PROGRESSIVE" EDUCATION

Alberta Educational Council: "15,671 boys and girls of school age are being 'taught' by non-teachers."

"1000 boys and girls of school age in Alberta are not in school."

"20,000 boys and girls of school age are being taught by teachers with sub-standard qualifications."

"In Alberta one student in ten obtains the high school diploma."

★

WE SUFFER BY COMPARISON

A. M. Mardiros, Professor of Philosophy, University of Alberta in "The Gateway,"

January 17, 1947:

"I have been asked as a newcomer to Canada to give my impressions of life here and to make some comparisons with other countries..."

"Most of my life I have lived in some part or other of the British Commonwealth. I was born and grew up in Australia. In 1938 I visited and spent some months in New Zealand. During most of the war years I lived in Britain, and now I have spent my first four months in Canada."

"My next observation is that freedom of thought and speech does not seem to be established on as secure a basis in Canada as in other parts of the Commonwealth. During the brief period I have been here I have noticed several attempts at censorship and restriction of liberty of thought and speech, both locally and nationally. Such restrictions would not be tolerated for one moment in the other parts of the British Commonwealth with which I am acquainted."

★

SHOE ON OTHER FOOT

Glasgow Forward, Dec. 7, 1946:

"Some employers are having to offer the workers free boot repairs in order to attract them to necessary jobs," says a news item.

"That ought to make Big Business wild. It's bad enough the shoe being on the other foot without having to do the maintenance work on it!"

FOOTPRINTS - A Revolutionary Gospel

"Recovery of sight for the blind"

IN THE current tussle between the United Mine Workers of America and the United States Government the chief weapon used against the miners was a campaign of hatred against John L. Lewis. Far too many people on this side of the line fell for that thoroughly Fascist gag of obscuring damning facts by publicly damning people. For it is still true that the human cost of coal to the user in the U.S. is three miners killed and fifteen wounded every day. Or, in the words of one of the Big Shots, in the last fourteen years "only 14,615 have been done to death, and the number injured was only 646,591." Only!

The miners are now claiming a direct proportion of every ton of coal won from the depths of the earth by their blood and sweat and tears, as a royalty payment with which to repair shattered miners. This will probably be stoutly opposed by churchwardens throughout the land as an unwarranted intrusion upon their stewardship in coal mines. They will feel (correctly) that if ever the horrible principle (to them) is established that an equal claim can be made upon coal to repair broken bones as well as broken wood and iron, why the poor owners might as well study Socialism with all its means to employment! For many accidents are directly caused by the callous indifference to the miners' safety induced by the all-engrossing pursuit of profits.

Now we all must agree that accidents will happen. But the point at issue is, who will pay for them when they do happen. The owners say certainly not I.

In a Calgary packing plant a worker stood day after day at his machine under a trickle of water from a leaky roof. When this was pointed out to the management the employee was advised to throw his apron over his shoulder; and thus keep himself dry. But when a leak appeared over a machine then a carpenter was called in a hurry to repair the breach, because, as the foreman rightly pointed out, "There is a lot of money invested in that machine." Oh, the capitalist is quite willing to foot the bill for repairs to protect his investment in machinery, that's good business! But to restore sight to the blinded, health to the maimed, motion to the shattered limb—well, what do we have a Red Cross for?

As Socialists we welcome the revolutionary doctrine that the recovery of wholeness as far as is possible, is as legitimate a charge upon industry as the repairs needed to complete an industrial unit. The restoration of both human and mechanical functions should come before the payment of profits. In a co-operative commonwealth the cost of human and mechanical replacements would be shared by the whole community as producers and consumers together owning and operating the industries upon which their prosperity depends.

The Importance of the Home Market

By J. E. Cook,
PRESIDENT, ALBERTA C.C.F.

DO I GET part of my wages for the things I produce? Hand some young men in Canadian factories are currently depicted in Canadian magazines and newspaper advertisements discussing this phenomenon and looking surprised.

There is every reason why they should be surprised.

The Dominion Department of Trade and Commerce is busy trying to point out to Canadian men and women that we get at least one-third of our living from imports.

It does seem to me that there is something wrong with the picture. As a statistical fact, Canada can produce more than 80 per cent of the things that Canadians use, and produce a large surplus of such things.

What is most feared now in Canada and in other countries as well is another cyclical depression. Depressions are a capitalistic obsession. They are accepted as an act of God by people who accept capitalism as the ultimate economic system.

The Department of Trade and Commerce argues that unless we can export we cannot eat even what we produce at home. It is good business, they say, to export goods even when we are short of things, so that we may set up trade habits for times of depression, not so far away.

And there is enough truth in the claim to make it impressive to many. But the fact remains that more than 80% of our future development is in the hand of the Canadian people. A family on a farm or in a town or city who controlled production, or were able themselves to produce 30% of the things they required, and were

able as well to produce a large surplus of those things, would not greatly fear shortages, particularly if those things included staples of food, clothing and shelter. Tickets would not be important and the trade ratio, while important, would not be the decisive factor in their standard of living.

It is not true that 35 cents of the Canadian mechanics' dollar comes from other countries. It is only true that to round out a full Canadian living standard in necessities and luxuries, Canadians may find it necessary to trade one surplus dollar abroad for \$4.00 that he spends at home.

But whether he has economic misery and want at home will not depend on foreign trade but on his arrangements for trade right at home. Foreign policy of the Canadian government is tremendously important but the arrangements for trade as between Canadian people is the primary job of the Canadian government.

Are An Unhealthy Influence On The Indian Children

REGINA.—Plans of the provincial government to build up the health of Indian children in the northern part of Saskatchewan looked as though they were well under way when the first shipments of cod liver oil were distributed recently. The Indian children literally lapped it up.

However, when Indian youngsters attending school with white children got around to discussing cod liver oil, with their paler brethren, they learned that it has a reputation for being "nasty stuff." Now the Indian kids don't like it, either. Which presents a problem in increasing the present one ounce a day to three ounces.

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PEOPLE LIKE C.C.F. RADIO PROGRAMS

While Lethbridge Provincial Constituency Association tops the list of radio contributions this week with a check for \$40, the other contributions from widely scattered parts of the province indicate enthusiastic support for the radio programs. These five-minute broadcasts are heard from the following stations: CJOC, Lethbridge, Tuesday at 10:30 p.m.; CFAC, Calgary, Saturday at 6:15 p.m.; and CJCA, Edmonton, Saturday at 10:15 p.m.

This week's contributors are:

Dr. E. A. Hay-Roe, 5.00; E. C. Madsen, 1.00; H. C. Smith, 1.00; Lethbridge Provincial Constituency Association, 40.00; Rimbey Club, 6.75; C. Naslund, 1.00; Anton Olson, 3.00; M. Arntson, 1.00; A. Holm, 2.00; Mr. and Mrs. Heap, 2.00; E. Rear, 1.00; J. Erickson, 5.00; Alice Hill Club, 10.00.

Collected by Mrs. A. R. Gale

J. Dukart, 1.00; S. Simpson, 1.00; J. Simpson, 1.00; A. R. Gale, 1.00; John Frank, 1.00.

HEADS WOMEN'S GROUP



MRS. EDITH ROGERS

WOMEN'S CCF CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

\$50 TO RADIO FUND

Mrs. Edith Rogers was re-elected by acclamation to the office of president at the annual meeting of the Edmonton Women's C.C.F. Club on Monday evening at the home of Mrs. S. G. Caldwell. Both Mrs. J. W. Adair as treasurer and Mrs. H. Scott as secretary were returned to office also by acclamation. Mrs. W. E. Fleet became vice-president, Mrs. P. Potts was elected as social convener and Mrs. D. East as membership convener. Mrs. B. P. Marliss, Mrs. C. E. Lee and Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe were appointed to form a program committee.

Meetings in the future will be held on the second Monday of each month, the next to be on February 10, at the home of Mrs. F. C. Butterworth.

It was decided to donate \$50.00 to the C.C.F. Radio Fund.

Lunch was served by Mrs. A. G. Campbell and Mrs. H. Scott. Co-hostess was Mrs. S. G. Caldwell.

DISCUSS LOAN TO BRITAIN

CALGARY.—Women's Council C.C.F. is holding its regular monthly meetings at the homes of members. The January gathering held at Mrs. Fairy Walker's discussed a paper prepared by Miss Mary Willison, "Economic Results of the American Loan to Britain," instructed the secretary to forward the sum of ten dollars to the Spanish Relief fund through one of our former members, Mrs. W. E. Turner, now of Vancouver, who is active in the Spanish Relief organization there. We have also been sending parcels monthly to different families in Great Britain, and as usual that parcel will be forwarded.

Mrs. Robert Nixon's invitation for the February meeting was accepted. The address is 205 10th Avenue N.E. The time is 8 p.m. February 14th, and C.C.F. women and their friends are cordially welcome.

WOBICK, LIESEMER ARE SPEAKERS AT CLARESHOLM CCF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Clareholm C.C.F. Club got away to a good start for 1947 when between 50 and 60 members and friends attended a bang-up chicken banquet in the Recreation Hall on Saturday evening, January 25. Mr. J. E. Peterson, President, was Master of Ceremonies and Mr. Otto Wobick, Director of the MacLeod Federal Riding, and A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., were guest speakers.

"How close is Fascism to us?" was the query put by Mr. Wobick. Defining Fascism as "capitalism maintained by force," Mr. Wobick warned that the anti-Semitism rife within Social Credit ranks, the persecution of the Jehovah witnesses by Mr. Manning's friend Duplessis, the hostility of governments to organized labor and the intolerance to minorities were all signs that Fascism was lurking just beneath the surface, and would break out as soon as it became evident to Capitalism that force was necessary, unless the people of Canada made it so evident that they were so devoted to freedom that Capitalism could not get away with it.

"When Ford recently dismissed several thousand employees," said Mr. Wobick, "he in effect went on strike for higher profits, and we scarcely heard a word about it: to go on strike for higher profits is the Divine Right of Capitalists. But when the coal miners went on strike for a decent standard of living, all the forces of the state were lined up against them as if they were enemies of the state. The strike is a costly weapon to the strikers as to others, but until we get a better method of getting justice, we who believe in freedom, must fight for the right of minorities, whether they be religious, political or economic. That is the only way to

show capitalism that Fascism will not be accepted in Canada," concluded Mr. Wobick.

Tory-S.C. Alliance
Dealing mainly with provincial affairs A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., pointed out that there would be two elections not later than the summer of 1948. "We have not more than one clear year at the most to prepare," said Mr. Liesemer. He said that it was common gossip at Ottawa that the alliance between Social Credit, the Union Nationale of Quebec and the Tories was complete. Social Credit leaders have abandoned every vestige of what their followers in the days of Mr. Aberhart thought to be progressivism. This was proven by the Social Credit attack on the Co-operatives, their hostility to the trade unions and toward farm problems, their heavy taxation of the municipal taxpayer, the virtual destruction of the education of Alberta children, their attitude toward the farm income tax problem, their sabotage of revision of Dominion-Provincial relations.

"The provincial and local leaders in all the major provincial organizations such as Municipalities, School Trustees, U.F.A. and A.F.U., School Teachers and others now know that the Manning government is the most Tory in all the history of the West," continued Mr. Liesemer. "It is up to us as individuals to help those leaders spread the truth among the rank and file of the former Social Credit supporters."

Mr. Liesemer urged C.C.F. members to keep themselves informed by reading regularly the People's Weekly and passing it on to friends outside the movement. He urged the greatest possible financial support in view of the coming elections. "A democratic movement, to stay democratic, must be financed by the people," concluded Mr. Liesemer, "and it is both our privilege and our duty to assist that to the best of our individual financial capacities."

Membership Drive

Mr. J. E. Peterson, the President, told the club that plans were already laid for intensive

C.C.F. News

Organization Meetings

J. GRIFFIN

Ponoka Constituency

Monday, Feb. 3—Homeleg Hall.
Wednesday, Feb. 5—Ferrybank.
Thursday, Feb. 6—Morningside.
Friday, Feb. 7—Waterlegen.

MRS. N. PETERSON

Pembina Constituency

Monday, Feb. 3—Pibroch Hall.
Tuesday, Feb. 4—Dapp Hall.
Wednesday, Feb. 5—Round Up.
Thursday, Feb. 6—Shoal Creek Hall.

(SEE OTHER C.C.F. NEWS ON
PAGE 8)

LONDON, England.—"Atomic piles" now being built up in Harwell, England, will produce materials for treatment of cancer. These materials will act as a supplement to radium. This announcement was made by Professor Cockcroft, United Kingdom Director of Atom Research, on Dec. 13. A metal such as cobalt would be put into the pile and left there for a month, he said. By then, it would have acquired properties very similar to radium. A small piece of cobalt would have an activity about equal to the biggest radium source used in medical treatment.

organization of both the provincial and federal constituencies. A Membership and People's Weekly drive would take place at once, and an organization will be set up in every poll. Mr. Peterson asked for the active co-operation of every member in these projects. When the meeting formally adjourned the members descended almost en masse upon the secretary to renew their sustaining memberships for 1947 and to list their aid in the coming drive. Things augur well for the C.C.F. in this South West corner of Alberta during 1947.

Membership Campaign Off to Good Start

The 1947 Finance and membership campaign which officially opened on January 15 is away to a good start with encouraging returns from many clubs and groups already received by Provincial Office. Here are a few of the early returns:

Valleyview Club, Memberships \$ 34.00

Alexandra Constituency, Memberships 42.00

Collected by O. Bratvold

Dapp C.C.F. Club 24.00
Rosyth C.C.F. Club, Memberships, etc. 45.00
Irma C.C.F. Club, Memberships 34.00
Modeste Creek Club, Memberships 58.00
Edmonton Constituency Meeting, Memberships 350.00
Canmore Constituency, Per C. Boulter 51.00
Rimbey C.C.F. Club, Memberships, etc. 59.75

Calgary C.C.F. Club No. 1 250.00

In addition to these generous sustaining membership contributions have been received from many individual members. All constituency associations, local Clubs and members are asked to co-operate in this campaign by sending in their memberships now. MAKE YOURS SUSTAINING—\$10.00 or more.

W. MARGOLUS,
Provincial Treasurer.

1947 Demands Membership Responsibility

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-- CAMROSE --

Mrs Edna Adamson

Secretary, Camrose C.C.F. Women's Club

LAST, BUT not least, of the trio of energetic ladies who are the driving force behind the Camrose Women's C.C.F. Club is the secretary, Mrs. Edna Adamson.

When I interviewed a number of farmers at the C.C.F. convention in Calgary I concluded that as a group they were the most reticent people in the world. But that was before I met Mrs. Adamson. She puts up her defences immediately you start to question her. "I like best to do things on the quiet," she explains. "Please don't make too much fuss about me." But ask Provincial Secretary John King, about Mrs. Adamson and he will launch into a rhapsody of praise that would really embarrass this good lady. And Mrs. MacPhee, president of the Camrose Women's Club backs him up by telling you that Mrs. Adamson and Mrs. Falconer "fire us with enthusiasm by their energy."

She was adamant when we asked for a picture: not even for the C.C.F. would she break her 30-year photographic fast.

One would need to be energetic to get the results obtained by the Camrose Women's Club. The annual meeting was held on the 20th of this month but already the provincial secretary has \$64 in membership for 1947. Women in the larger cities would consider 50 members a really fine achievement but in Camrose with a population of some 4,000, the women's objective for 1947 is 50 club members. The members propose to raise at least \$200 and will undertake to pay half the membership fee for Old Age Pensioners.

To meet some of their commitments the Women's Club is planning to hold a tea in June and a bazaar in October. If last year is

any criterion they are likely to go over the top too. The 1946 financial statement, published in an adjoining column, shows interests wide enough to include the Camrose Swimming Pool and the Social Security League, as well as numerous other donations to the C.C.F.

Sell People's Weekly

If there is anybody in the province who says they can't sell the People's Weekly they should contact super-salesladies Adamson and Falconer. Twenty copies of the paper are mailed to Camrose every week and they sell every one of them. Where do they sell them? Everywhere and I mean EVERYWHERE. When the papers arrive they start a systematic tour of the town and they would count the day lost if they had a single copy left as they turn their steps homeward.

Mrs. Adamson came to Canada from Minnesota with her parents in the fall of 1902. Her husband died four years ago and she now lives in Camrose by herself. But she is not alone very much for her four sons live on farms within 11 miles of Camrose and the latching is always out for them and their families, especially the five grandsons who give assurance that the Adamson farms are not likely to suffer from any manpower shortage.

In spite of the fact that a goodly portion of her time is devoted to the C.C.F. Mrs. Adamson finds time for weaving and all kinds of fancy work.

She joined the C.C.F. four years ago. She would have associated herself with the movement earlier but she was living in Creston, B. C. for five years and there was no C.C.F. group there at the time.

Mrs. Adamson believes that the C.C.F. is "the only party that is ever going to be able to give to the people what they really want and need—a chance to live and be happy." If only there were more Mrs. Adamsons scattered throughout the province!—I. M.

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MRS. MACPHEE IS RE-ELECTED HEAD OF CAMROSE CLUB

At a well attended meeting of the Camrose C.C.F. Club, on January 20, the Treasurer's Report was given; an objective was set for 1947; and it was decided to take out a sustaining membership for 1947, for the Club. Practically all members renewed their membership. There is no fee to belong to the Club. Three new members were welcomed. Mrs. Adamson and Mrs. Falconer were hostesses.



Mrs. G. MacPhee Mrs. E. Falconer

The following were elected to office for 1947:

President, Mrs. G. Y. MacPhee.

1st Vice-President, Mrs. A. C. Falconer.

2nd Vice-President, Mrs. J. Maglis.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Edna Adamson.

Ways and Means Committee, Mrs. A. Isakson, Mrs. P. Gotsas, Mrs. G. Omeses, Mrs. Rosalind.

Membership and Subscription Committee, Mrs. Adamson, and Mrs. Falconer.

Program for meetings, Mrs. Beuerlein, Mrs. E. M. Bergh, Mrs. M. Olson, Mrs. A. C. Falconer.

Register for members, Mrs. J. Maglis.

The Club set an objective of 50 members for next year and agreed to undertake to pay half the membership fee for old age pensioners. The members propose to raise at least \$200 and made preliminary arrangements for holding a tea in June and a bazaar in October.

Balance Sheet

| | |
|---|----------|
| Balance January 1946, and revenue from two bazaars, collection at meetings and sales of books | \$298.00 |
| 1946 Club Donations Sustaining C.C.F. Membership for the Club | \$10.00 |
| To Projector Fund | 10.00 |
| Camrose Swimming Pool .. | 10.00 |
| National Office By-election Fund | 10.00 |
| C.C.F. Cook Book | 30.00 |
| Advertising Card | 10.00 |
| To Radio Fund | 10.00 |
| Delegate to Regina | 50.00 |
| National Convention | 13.00 |
| To Social Security League .. | 10.00 |
| Hall Rent, Advertising, Stamps, etc. | 23.00 |

TOTAL

Balance on hand

\$298.00

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SEEK \$500,000 FOR RELIEF OF HUNGRY PEOPLE

OTTAWA, (CPA).—A new objective of \$500,000 is to be sought in Canada during 1947 to relieve the distress of European people, through the crusading efforts of the Unitarian Service Committee.

The eighteen-months-old campaign of the U.S.C. in Canada, sparked by the indefatigable and gallant efforts of Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, resulted in 1,100 war-shocked children receiving care in French and Czechoslovak convalescent homes under the Unitarian foster-parent scheme.

Warm Response

A warm response from all sections of the Canadian people was given to Dr. Hitschmanova's moving appeal. In 1946, the U.S.C. of Canada shipped 130,000 pounds of used clothing, concentrated food, and medical supplies to France, and 30,000 pounds of the same goods to Czechoslovakia. In addition, the Committee raised \$70,000.

After a visit to Europe this summer, Dr. Hitschmanova returned to Canada with the frantic news that from January on, only two private agencies would be left to work in Czechoslovakia, one of which was the Unitarian Service Committee.

"With UNRRA out of the picture, and no other international relief agency set up, who is going to aid hungry, ragged, and sick people in France and Czechoslovakia, if private agencies fail them?" is Dr. Hitschmanova's challenge.

Office of the U.S.C. of Canada is 48 Sparks Street, Ottawa. Most popular form of contribution is the \$45, which, under the foster-parent scheme, will care for a child for three months in a convalescent home.

Don't wait for a canvasser to call for your C.C.F. Sustaining Membership. Send it in to the C.C.F. Provincial Office and get the drive off to a good start on Jan. 15. \$10 will entitle you to a sustaining membership but this is the minimum, not the maximum. Larger amounts will be most acceptable.

LIBRARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP IS OFFERED IN SASK.

REGINA.—Three librarianship scholarships, of \$600 each, to assist qualified young Saskatchewan people to gain training at accredited library schools, are again being made available by the provincial department of education, it has been announced by Education Minister W. S. Lloyd. They will be awarded on recommendation of the library advisory council.

Applications may be submitted by any Saskatchewan resident who is not over 35 years of age and who holds a B.A. or equivalent degree. Scholarship winners must agree to return to the province when they complete their course, and work in Saskatchewan libraries for two years. Otherwise, they must refund \$400 of the scholarship.

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No. 604

Mexican Haven for Spanish Stowaways



C.C.F. Members Intercede To Prevent Deportation

VANCOUVER.—Jose Cruz Perez, 22, farm worker; Severiano Garzo Sanchez, 22, chauffeur; Francisco Gaso Gisbert, 26, fruit packer; and Julian Mondero Puster, 22, laborer, who arrived in Vancouver as stowaways aboard SS. Tipperary Park last November, are now at liberty here awaiting permission to enter Mexico.

Gisbert formerly served in the Spanish Republican Army. He states that when taken political prisoner by Franco he was beaten three days and three nights. He escaped from a labor battalion.

Puster, Perez and Sanchez state that they deserted from Franco's army into which they had been conscripted earlier.

All four secretly boarded SS Tipperary Park at Bordeaux last September. They believe that deportation to Spain would mean death before a firing squad.

C.C.F. Members Act

Following a resolution of the C.C.F. Provincial Council last November 30 protesting the deportation of the men, then scheduled to take place shortly, Angus MacInnis, M.P., wired Hon. J. A. Glen, minister of mines and resources, immigration branch, urging consideration be given to them on humanitarian grounds.

On December 6, Hon. J. A. Glen wired Mr. MacInnis stating that he had instructed a stay of proceedings for thirty days with release of the four men under satisfactory bond, thus enabling them to make arrangements to proceed to some other country.

A wire was received from the Mexican consul in Montreal last week stating that Mexican immigration permits for the four refugees were now ready for them, and would be issued as soon as the men's identification and travel documents were submitted to the consul's office. In the meantime a further stay of deportation proceedings is being sought for the men.

A Londoner, Edinburgh-bound, shared the train-carriage with an elderly, glum-looking Scot. At the first stop his companion rushed from the carriage, ran down the platform, then rushed back, panting. After this happened at three stops, the Londoner, his curiosity aroused, asked the reason.

"Well," said the Scot, "I went to London to see a specialist about my heart. He says it's very bad, and if I'm not careful I might drop dead; so I'm just booking from station to station."

MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD

By CLIFFORD E. LEE

LATE IN the 1800's a whaling vessel was wrecked in a hurricane. Its cold and miserable crew huddled on the shore of a tiny island and brooded on its fate. One of them noticed a shiny article washed ashore with other debris from the wreck. It proved to be a bottle of rum, highly welcome to the disheveled men.



When the bottle was empty one of them threw it at what he took to be a rock just off shore. His aim was good, his amazement complete when the bottle was not shattered. The "rock" was a lump of ambergris worth a fortune.

A prohibitionist would not approve of the moral seen in the

experience by the ship's Scotch engineer. Said he: "A wurr conclusion argument against a body bein' a teetotaler."

Ambergris owes its value to its property of "fixing" a perfume. It is used in the more expensive scents to make the smell last longer. This unique material is generated in the intestinal tract of the sperm whale. But for some reason it is found in only a tiny fraction of all sperm whales. More often it is found in lumps cast up on the beaches. In 1883 a thousand pounds of it brought a quarter of a million dollars. It is still highly valuable.

No Substitute

There may be some doubts of the justice of a lucky beach comber acquiring a fortune by the accident of his discovery of a lump of ambergris. But the value of

the substance is due to the fact that it has a specific use for which there is no substitute and it is scarce. There is probably more scents in this than in our gold mining industry. Here the oft-treasured prospector scours the country for a mineral which for its practical uses is in great oversupply. When he finds it he slaves to dig a hole in the ground and bring the yellow stuff to the surface. When he gets it up society pays him thirty-five dollars or so on once, buries it carefully in another hole in the ground, and sets elaborate guards to make sure it stays there.

Thousands of French farmers raise the raw material of another commodity that is more precious than gold. What they grow is roses: from their petals is distilled the concentrates that are used in making the most expensive perfumes. A cupful of this liquid is worth a couple hundred dollars. The rose crop pays the farmer \$100 to \$200 per acre. Acreages are small, farming methods laborious.

Duplicate Nature's Scents

Until recently the basic raw material of the perfume industry was the various flowers raised by farmers of France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Turkey and other countries. Modern synthetic chemistry has scored dramatic achievements in duplicating nature's scents, and at a fraction of the former cost. They are not substitutes. They are the actual chemicals which give the smell to roses, violets, and other flowers. Chemically built from atoms derived from coal tar they are much cheaper than the same materials manufactured by nature in the little laboratories that all plants are.

The result on the lives of the farmers who grow flower-crops will be calamitous. One of the characteristics of our competitive society is that great achievements of one group often mean catastrophe to another. Highly organized and highly financed classes are able to control to a degree some of the effects on themselves. For instances, it is doubtful if a new dirt-cheap fuel would be allowed to put the world oil industry on the rocks.

But farmers are in a different position the world over.

A BIT OF

Nonsense

He: "We're coming to a tunnel. Are you afraid?"

She: "Not if you take that cigar out of my mouth."

After a doctor, called to a house to attend a confinement, had been upstairs a few minutes, he came down and asked the husband: "Have you got a corkscrew?" He was given one and went upstairs. A few minutes elapsed . . . he came down and asked: "Got a screwdriver?" He was given one and went upstairs. A few minutes and he came down again and asked for a chisel and mallet.

"Good gracious, doctor," the worried husband asked, "is it a boy or a girl?"

"Don't know yet," replied the doctor. "Can't get my medicine case open."

Lulu: "If you were half a man you'd take me to the circus tomorrow."

Buddy: "Honey, if I were half a man I'd be in the circus."

Papa Hog wandered down to the brewery and found a big puddle of sour beer that had been poured out. When he staggered home, Mamma Hog met him and quickly shunted him around the barn, out of sight of the baby piglet. With a furious grunt she exclaimed: "You shameless thing! What do you mean by making such a human being of yourself before the children?"

5 MINUTES WITH THE C.C.F.

RADIO ADDRESS

By A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A.

THE CRISIS that exists in education in nothing short of catastrophe. 35,000 Alberta boys and girls this year are not receiving ordinary education. Only 1 out of 10 elementary students ever completes high school, and the proportion will become smaller and smaller because fewer and fewer will be able to carry the high school work as a result of poor public school grounding. Already Alberta is short of doctors, dentists, nurses, law and commerce graduates. With fewer and fewer high school students we are going to be short or still next year and the next.

Two years ago Alberta was short 800 teachers. Today we are short 2,000. And teachers are leaving the profession faster than they are entering it. The first step in the cure for this situation is a raise in teachers' salaries. In 1945 the majority of the Social Credit Cabinet Ministers voted against raising the minimum up to \$1,000. The same year the C.C.F. Government of Saskatchewan raised the minimum to \$1,200 and now it is to be raised to \$1,500. The C.C.F. in Alberta proposes that as a first step to save the education of Alberta children the Alberta minimum this year be raised to \$1,500.

But the Alberta C.C.F. is equally emphatic that the municipal property taxpayer cannot pay more taxes, that he must be relieved of some of those he is now paying. This Social Credit Government is the greatest taxing machine that this province has ever seen.

But you have your tax bill reduced if I demand that Mr. Roper and I made last year, and which we are going to renew this year, are accepted. We demand that the province pay 50% of the cost of education as is being done in three other provinces, that the province relieve you of any of the cost of indigent relief and of old age pensions as is being done in many other provinces. And finally we demand that the province remove the social service tax of three mills on municipal property.

But if the municipal taxpayer is to be relieved of taxes, where is the money to be found? There is one way, and it is a very simple way. The C.C.F. government of Saskatchewan has shown us how to do it. That Government has gone into business for itself, and made money.

Cut Electricity Rates
For example. On January 1, 1945, the C.C.F. Government in

And the story is the same with government-owned bus lines, the brick factory, the shoe factory, the box factory, and so on. Government ownership brings service to more people at a lower cost, gives better wages and working conditions to labor, and over all there is still a satisfactory profit with which to reduce taxes. Now this is not theory. The C.C.F. Government in Saskatchewan has proven it:

Reduce Taxes

Despite its heavy contributions to education, medical, dental, optical, hospital and funeral costs to Old Age Pensioners, and a host of other services beyond that given by any other government in Canada, despite all this the C.C.F. Government in Saskatchewan reduced its tax revenue by \$200,000,000 last year through the abolition of the former Liberal Government's so-called educational tax on foodstuffs.

If you want to, you can turn the profits that private monopolies now take out of the province for their shareholders in Eastern Canada and the United States into Alberta government revenue that will cut taxes for the municipal property taxpayer. That the C.C.F. in Alberta proposes to do as soon as you ask it to. That is why the C.C.F. is opposed so bitterly by the friends of Eastern monopolies. That is what the ultra-Tory Manning Government refuses to do. And that is why the big shots who used to support the old line parties are now Social Credit's most ardent champions.

You are invited to listen to a C.C.F. speaker every week at:

CJCA—Saturday, 10:15 p.m.
CFAC—Saturday, 6:15 p.m.
CJOC—Tuesday, 10:30 p.m.

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PERSONAL STUFF Will Not Build

(Continued from page 1)

thing of a flop. However, the C.C.F. can't very well back out now and probably will run candidates in most constituencies and get the support of the diehards. But the conservative Liberals (there are lots of them) will support the Social Credit government, because they are more concerned about preserving the status quo than they are about their nominal party loyalties. The Independents will fade completely out of the picture.

As things stand now the C.C.F. presents the alternative to the present government. Supporters of the government have never been mad at the C.C.F., despite the lurid campaign against it by the Social Credit leaders. True, many Social Credit voters have been very angry at some of us who have had to be outspoken about the government's failures and the fallacies of Social Credit. I was probably regarded as the chief offender in that respect and when Mr. Abernethy and Mr. Manning asked the Social Credit voters to vote against me in the 1942 by-election, I expected they would do so. But it didn't work out that way. The Social Credit candidate was the last to be eliminated. How his votes went would decide whether the Independent candidate or I would be elected. The S.C. votes came to me in the ratio of two to one. Neither their displeasure with me as an individual nor the pleadings of their leaders could induce them to vote old party in preference to the C.C.F.

There is no reason to believe that this situation has changed, except for the better. Certainly the members of the government think they have none but the C.C.F. to fear, or they wouldn't devote their entire attention to us. So it sums up to this: The government is losing support. It has lost quite a bit already, especially in the country districts where the municipal taxpayer is becoming resentful of the manner in which he is being soaked in order to enable the government to hoard of surpluses in the public accounts. In the country, too, the stab-in-the-back given the A.F.U. during the strike is still resented, even by farmers who were not completely behind the strike. As one of these put it to me at the time: "If he (Manning) couldn't say anything to help them he could at least have kept his mouth shut." It was not only the first attack, but the second one, after the strike was on, that really made many farmers very angry. They felt they had been betrayed. Well, all this has had a cumulative effect. But is the C.C.F. getting the support the government is losing? The answer to that one can only be learned by active canvassing by C.C.F. members in the constituencies. If they are not doing that job they are failing to carry out the 1947 program of their organization.

PHONE 25427

THE GREGORY CO.

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(Continued from page 1)

never eliminated the slums and it never will."

Housing costs are so high that 50% of the nation's families can't afford to buy a new home. Taft says he most cases they can't even afford to buy second-hand houses.

Before the war 8,000,000 families paid less than \$15 a month rent," according to the Ohioan. "Six or eight million lived in houses distinctly sub-standard."

Wants Gov't Subsidies

Private interests either can't or won't build houses to rent at a price the people can afford, Taft adds, so government subsidies are the only way to provide decent housing for millions of families in the lowest income group.

The Wagner-Elender-Taft federal housing and slum clearance program is now before Congress. It was passed by a large vote in the senate last year, but was sidetracked by Republican filibustering in the House committee which received it.

At Handsome Profit

Far from undermining "Free enterprise," the W-E-T Bill limits government-built houses to one-tenth of total construction and provides that even public construction will be done, at a handsome profit, by private contractors. It authorizes the federal government to pay as much as two-thirds of the cost of city slum clearance projects.

Declaring that 20% of U.S. families are forced to live in houses that are "indecent," Taft has told a conference of mayors that he will personally bear the brunt of piloting the housing bill through Congress.

Farmers Are

(Continued from page 1)

menhously increase his costs and throw his private budget out of balance.

Moreover, the farmer is concerned because the order of de-control which the government is following leaves basic foods to the last—along with rent, perhaps—and therefore means that the prices the farmer gets for his food products will remain down while other prices rise around him on every side.

"Let's have controls over the whole field, or none at all," says the farmer, though he has pretty well made up his mind that the second choice is not in his best interests.

Next on the farmer's list are some particular items which include an acreage subsidy on barley. Agriculture Minister Gardiner has previously committed the government to a five-dollar subsidy on acres sown to barley this year, and if the government during the present session doesn't come through with that special inducement there are going to be plenty of disgruntled farmers in the land. To meet the U.K. bacon agreement, and the greatly increased livestock program as a whole, more coarse grains for feed are needed. And the livestock men can only get barley if the grain growers find it somewhere near as profitable as wheat.

Critical of P.F.A.A.

Changes in the P.F.A.A. and the P.F.A.A. are both desired. Farmers have criticized the P.F.A.A. (crop failure relief) for some years because its benefits apply only to farmers within a proven area of crop failure—an individual farmer can't collect unless the

rest of the township suffers with him.

As for the P.F.A.A., recommendations were made by the Federation of Agriculture last year to have its benefits extended to other parts of Canada besides the prairie West. The title of the act would have to be changed to "Farm Rehabilitation Act," and Ontario farmers would hope to see federal projects not to conserve moisture, as in Saskatchewan, but to drain the land.

Maritimes Want Aid

Even more urgent is the case of the farmers of the Maritimes, who want the P.F.A.A., or a similar measure, to cover the marshlands of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick where reclamation works are definitely needed. The construction of dikes and drainage systems in the Maritimes is one of those public works projects which the federal government is keeping "on the shelf," for an "unemployment emergency"—but with unemployment figures already rising, and young people being shifted to jobs in other sections of the country, the Maritimes are certainly in a position to holler for those particular projects to come "off the shelf" at once.

The Canadian farmer may get some legislation along these lines, after Parliament opens on January 30th. But he must grow green with jealousy when he looks across the Atlantic at the magnificent "new deal" which the British farmer is getting under the Labor Government's Agricultural Bill, introduced a few weeks ago.

Trade Union membership in Britain totalled over 7,800,000 at the end of 1945. Compared with 1944 this was a decrease of 223,000 and nearly all this reduction was in the number of women which declined by 214,000 to 1,597,000.

N.Z. Farm Income

(Continued from page 1)

local politics, but any fair-minded New Zealander will tell you that the farmers never reached their present state of prosperity until the Labor government came into office.

When Labor was first elected at the end of 1935, the price of butterfat, on which New Zealand's great dairy industry depended, was about 8½d a pound. The Government gave the farmers a guaranteed price, to make them independent of overseas-market fluctuations. To begin with, it was 12½d a pound—nearly a 50 per cent increase—and it has risen since.

Before 1935 the shadow of debt hung eternally over nearly all but the biggest New Zealand farmers. Labor has changed that. The guaranteed price helped to dispel the shadow, as also did another law under which more than £8,500,000 of farmers' debts were officially written off. Probably at least as much again was written off voluntarily.

Bonus for Farmers

Moreover, Labor has never removed the 25 per cent exchange rate on sterling transactions, which was imposed by the Tories

NOTICE OF APPLICATION for a change of name of Electric Equipment (Edmonton) Ltd.

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to section 37 of the Companies Act, Chap. 240 R. S. A. 1942, Electric Equipment (Edmonton) Limited, intends to apply to the Registrar of Companies, of the Province of Alberta, for a change of its name from Electric Equipment (Edmonton) Limited, to Electric Equipment (Alberta) Limited.

DATED at the City of Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, this 16th day of January, A. D., 1947.

Electric Equipment (Edmonton) Ltd.
By its Solicitors
Field, Hyndman & McLean,
Per A. D. Hyndman.

on the eve of their defeat in a frantic effort to bolster New Zealand's then tottering economy. Many Labor supporters think that the Labor Government should have at least reduced the rate from 25 per cent. It means that those selling goods in Britain get, in New Zealand currency, approximately 25 per cent more than the goods fetch in Britain. This bonus comes out of the pockets of New Zealand taxpayers and goes almost entirely to the farmers as the nation's principal exporters. It has been estimated that since it was begun this has been worth about 180 million pounds to the farmers.

A.F. of L. Support

(Continued from page 1)

erican Veterans' Committee; and several others.

A.F. of L. Support

Americans for Democratic Action is the first such grouping in more than 20 years to get substantial AFL support. AFL research director, Boris Shishkin and social security director Nelson Cruikshank both attended the sessions. St. Hoffman of the Upholsters union, Barney Taylor of the National Farm Labor union and William Munger of the Hat Workers were also present.

Still Unleash

The political role of ADA is still unclear. Mrs. Roosevelt, Chester Bowles, former price control director, both favored working within the Democratic party, but other spokesmen declared that the organization has taken no position on electoral action.

ADA's rival, Progressive Citizens of America, resulted from a merger of National Citizens' PAC, the independent Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions and eight smaller groups. It includes a strong communist contingent and one disappointed politician, but no new strength.

ADA, on the other hand, is a long step ahead from many laborites and liberals who have never before united in an organization which such potential strength outside the framework of the parties and totally free from communist influence or manipulation. It appears destined to become a healthy centre of progressive activity even though it does not serve as a substitute for a labor and farmer-based new party.

CCF NEWS

(Continued from Page Five)

Discussion Group Off to Good Start

CALGARY.—The C.C.F. Discussion Group got off to a good start for 1947, at its January meeting, with about forty present. W. M. Pecover's leadership of group singing, "Solidarity Forever," was a treat, with actually every person present joining in with enthusiasm.

The subject, "Are Strikes Necessary," was dealt with from different angles by five speakers; as follows: III Effects of Strikes, (Mrs. Bernice Humphries); Gains Won by Strikes, (Mr. Bill Pippard); The Farm Strike in Alberta, (Miss Dorothy Turner); Legislation Affecting Strikes in Canada, (Mrs. Evelyn Goggin); and Results of Strikes in United States, (Mr. Jack Ford). All speakers evidently had done careful research work, and all presented their material in good form.

The panel discussion was followed by remarks from the floor, a dozen people taking part in three minutes apiece. While much of the discussion did not come to grips with the subject so directly as might be desired, all of it was pertinent to the subject of "Strikes," and whether Labor problems can be solved effectively by them, or only by political action. The results of the discussion were, on the whole, in accordance with the stated aims of the group, namely, practice for in-

experienced speakers, (some of those taking part in the panel were making their first appearance as public speakers); practice by all members in preparing and presenting material of special interest to C.C.F.ers; and lively and intelligent participation by a considerable number.

Donate to Radio Fund

The meeting took a recess in order to hear our provincial leader or in his weekly broadcast. Although this organization is not a money-raising institution, appreciation for Mr. Roper's broadcast was expressed in a donation to the C.C.F. Radio Fund.

We accepted with deep regret the resignation of Captain Ken Torky, who has been one of the moving spirits of the group, and who has acted in the capacity of secretary. Mr. Bill Pippard kindly consented to take over the tasks of secretary.

Mr. Rert Ryan, in his usual delightful way, acted as chairman. Mr. Ken Stewart, who held an executive position in the Labor Party in Wellington, N. Z., will lead the February discussion, on "Co-operation of Trade Unions and Political Parties." Members, brush up on New Zealand Trade Union's part in electing and supporting a Labor Government, and be ready to make the February meeting also a real success. Come and bring others! Place, Reliance Hall, 114 7th Ave. E. at 8 p.m. February 25th.

STEWART HEADS CALGARY CCF CLUB

At a well attended and enthusiastic meeting held at the Labor Temple on Thursday, January 23, the Calgary C.C.F. Club No. 1 was formed. The following provisional executive was elected:

President, Ken Stewart.
Secretary, Mrs. E. Geiger.
Treasurer, H. C. Moore.
Directors, L. Walker, Ernest Dwy, A. Knudson, A. Larson, O. Pinnell, B. Clark.

Following a short address by J. N. Sykes, assistant provincial treasurer, it was decided that the first activity of the club would be the organization of an intensive drive for membership, finance and People's Weekly subscriptions. An excellent start was made on the campaign when after a financial appeal the members present contributed \$250.00.

Mr. Ken Stewart, the president of the club, is a young man who recently arrived in Calgary from New Zealand where he was a prominent and active member in the Labor Party.

Annual Meeting February 3

The first meeting of the Rimbey C.C.F. Club for 1947 was held at the home of Peggy Sheedy on Monday, January 6. Reports on the Provincial and Constituency conventions were given by delegates and a good start was made on the 1947 membership objective. The annual meeting of the club will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Iddings on February 3.

Protest High Tax

That the provincial government should bear at least 50% of the cost of education in Alberta was the unanimous opinion of the members of the Red Deer C.C.F. Club, when the topic, "Crisis in Education," was discussed at their last meeting. The rural members who were present in large numbers expressed alarm at the present trend in Municipal taxation which they contend has increased beyond a reasonable level.

Speakers Night

Monday, February 10, is speakers' night with the Red Deer Club. In order to train C.C.F. speakers the Red Deer group reserves at least one meeting each year for 5 to 10 minute talks by a number of its members. This is always one of the most interesting of all our gatherings and members and their friends are urged to be present in the Dour Room of the Buffalo Hotel at 8:30 p.m.

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